Class Distinctions in England

A Case of Ostracism Observed by an Woman in County Society

living in England it is the rigid class lines and prejudices which still obtain in county

Gay London is far too cosmopolitan. and is too keen after money and amusement to draw sharp distinctions, even certain time honored rules and regulations. save his boy. He is notorious for letting down barriers account rather than the pedigree of those who are blessed by the light of his counte-

- But while the great world revolves about the throne in a way it has not done for be a gentleman.

generations, royalty's attitude toward But no alway. of centuries are still supreme.

For example, not so very long ago the wife of a well known London publisher. ambitions to be smart. begged a friend of hers for an introduction it happened, the Governor at that moment friend gently but none the less decidedly refused to grant Mrs. Publisher's request.

To a third party it was explained that to yield the favor would have been a real unkindness. The Personage, it seems, was decidedly old fashioned, and upon finding out that the lady's husband made books for a living would unquestionably have saked why the devil such people were forced upon him, and have taken the first opportunity to give them the snub aristo-

But to see the ancient cast iron system at work in all of its glory one should go to a shire like Lincoln, where the proudest gentry in the British isles are to be found. There they would scorn to yield an inch to the newly rich, be the gilt a foot thick, and every petty prejudice and social ob-

I remember quite well my utter astonishment when first brought into contact with such hoary traditions. It was during a summer spent in a district thickly dotted with rich manor houses, halls, courts,

The neighbors were delightfully friendly. and after a call from the vicar and undergoing a satisfactory inspection at church Sunday we were accepted in whole hearted fashion by the best of county society. The clergy of four parishes left cards, and we were promptly invited to at least a dozen garden parties.

Among the natives there could be no question that a certain Mr. X-- and his wife were the most distinguished looking and agreeable people in the place. He was a beauty of the English type, so tall and athletic, so freshly tinted and finely testured, and then he dressed with a perfection of color and cut one sees only among

men of his nation. This couple occupied a stately seat near by, had wonderful gardens, made a cult of birds and flowers, bred superb cattle and were noted for their kindness to the cottage folk. I first met them in an industrial antry and was greatly surprised never to encounter them again in any of the

neighboring drawing rooms In fact I was so disappointed that I made inquiries, declaring my intention of hunting them up, trying to exchange visits and asked the advice of a local magnate as to the arrangement of a dinner I wanted to give later on which would include the attractive husband and wife.

"What, the X's!" he exclaimed. "Why my dear lady, you surely have no inten tion of meeting such people on a dinner

"But why not?" I inquired. "They are far and away the most amusing man and woman about here, and I am simply dying to be asked to see their aviary and orchic The Colonel replied rather stiffly that

tf I afhered to my rash course I might be sure none of the county people coulbe induced to accept my invitation, and he entreated me to desist from such a social blunder. I instantly concluded that some deadly disgrace was involved and begged to hear the story and judge for

Then with that complete absence of ble birth and morals, but the community | ago, cording wood. had been conveiled to ostracize her on account of her deplorable marriage.

the black story of ignominy and crime. Ignoring my flippancy, the Colonel stated that the wretched Mr. X. was not only the sen of a farmer, but-and here he stared like a horned owl through his glasses-X, was proprietor of the chief est cattle fairs of England are held weekly throughout the year

Well, and what of that?" I inquired. good, dull Briton, "can't you see how hopeless it is having to do with such canaille? It is deplorable that a woman of Mrs. X.'s obligations of her class. Yet, if she is he wanted no snap. dead to all sense of decency, we hold i in our hands to protect the society of Lincoln-

shire against this sort of contamination." of questions as to the status of Mrs. X.

with her immediate family.

and orobaned daughters of a clergyman. living a mean niggling little life on cheese parings and candle eads. Big. good lookand they were married in a very storm of

mother once a month, but added that all has told Sioux City friends that he believed the rest of the family made it a point to be , it was lucky for him that he did not fall absent on such occasions. Her old friends into the habit of looking for snaps. she only met at church and on charity

being the extent of her interpourse with ber neighbors.

Since cousin, so it seems, rebelling against the rigor of the law and hoping to effect the rigor of the law and hoping to effect the some sort of reconciliation, invited the X's once to a lawn party. Happily or unbappily, these kindly attentions were noised abroad, and before the afternoon to do with his rise in the collection of the latter for the trouble of giving him instruction on the key.

If there is one thing more than another | in the neighborhood sent in regrets. It was that excites the surprise of an American | a horrible mortification to the X.'s, who had

ince then drawn completely apart. "And what about the son," I wanted to know, having noticed a singularly attractive child with them at church

My friend observed that there was the main trouble. X. was such a stupid, selfish if King Edward had not broken through | brute that he utterly refused to try and

The mother's family, it appears, offered where great wealth is concerned, and it to take the lad, give him their name to is well known that he looks at the bank | bring him up as their own-for a handsome noney consideration-on condition that he have no further intercourse with his father, feeling, if some such precautions were taken, there was hope he might yet

But no, always obstinate as a pig, X. insocial questions has little weight in the sisted upon keeping the child in his own provinces or among the old conservative class, and some said he did not mean to set. There the time honored conventions even send his son up for the army. That charge the Colonel refused to believe, for of course putting the youngster into a good regiment and giving him plenty of money to spend would certainly help matters.

"And so," I summarized, "the best lookthe Governor of the Tower. Now, as ing, eleverest, manliest man in this community is abhorred and thrown out like was very much of a personage, and the a criminal because he owns an auction mart and ranks with tradespeople.

"I notice he heads all your subscription fists for village improvement and church restoration, that he writes everybody's public speeches and really runs this entire show even if he does sell cattle. You freely use and freely abuse him.

"Well, now, will you, who are so keen on social distinctions, explain to me why the same people who refuse to recognize the X's will grovel before an American nobody married to an English earl? We constantly send over the scum of our country-rich seum, I grant you-and it is welcomed in circles of English society it could never hope

penetrate in the United States. "Tell me what it means, for I am often confused over here at the constant talk of class honor, class obligations, pride of stacle of mediaval days is preserved in- | birth, &c., and yet watch you take Yankee rulgarians to your bosom with rapturous

At this tirade the Colonel blushed like a girl and stuttered and stammered so vio- Opera House has nothing to envy in German lently that I declared he was trying to singing. up his ignorance.

"You don't know why," I jeered.
"Oh, yes, but I do," he insisted, "only we are such good friends it never would do for me to tell you.

I assured and reassured him that no matter what the explanation might be I promised to be neither injured nor angered. Even then he had to be coaxed, and my curiosity reached high pressure long before he could be induced to make clear the difference existing between an underbred

Briton and a Yankee to match. Expressing his views as delicately as possible, the Colonel said that in the first vance them socially. The King had made them fushionable, and always turned a deaf | wished that I had been his pupil. ear when any one tried to criticise Uncle

Sam's offspring. lians, Canadians, in fact overseas Britons of the senior Lamperti was very near ours. enovement designed to elevate the peas- | generally, were invariably made to give place to the all conquering Yankee. "Co- But before that time I had got my musical

> accepted and applauded as "original." you see, we in England realize quite to be. learly that certain differentiations do the are poor, and it is even said that some ankees are sharper than others; but when seems to be neglected here. t comes to a question of family, birth or ou call high class and low class the dis-

it is an indeterminate quantity. AN AMERICAN WOMAN.

BEGAN BY CORDING WOOD.

Start of W. C. Brown, Third Vice-President

of the New York Central. SIOUX CITY, Ia., Feb. 18.-W. C. Brown humor and the solemn precision of his third vice-president of the New York race my military friend explained. He | Central and Hudson River Railroad, began said that poor Mrs. X. was of irreproacha- his career in Sioux City thirty-five years

"I don't believe I want a soft snap, for if I am to stay in the railroad business I should know something about wooding engines. I would never know it by selling tickets at a window, assuring people that the clock is right and informing them how far it is to Bechuanaland."

This was the remark made by Mr. Brown to James Hamilton, local agent of the Milauction mart in Lincoln wherethe great- | waukee and St. Paul Railroad, in 1869, as he was busily engaged in piling wood on an engine, for which he was receiving \$1.15 a day. Agent Hamilton had offered him "But, my dear madami" exclaimed that a place in the station as an assistant, supposing that it would be a welcome change from piling wood on the engine in the yards while the mercury kept under the zero gentle blood should so utterly forget the mark. Then it was that Mr. Brown said

In accordance with his determination to learn everything there was to know about wooding engines Mr. Brown worked in I then became interested to inquire how | the Sioux City yards during the winter of such prejudices work out, and asked a series | 1869. The next year he worked on the section and tamped on every tie in the section at one time or another. He after-It appears she was one of five maiden | ward learned to sell tickets and be courteous

to an inquisitive_public. To-day, sitting at his desk in the general offices of the New York Central Railroad. X. courted her boldly; she loved him he recalls the winter of 1869 when he was cording wood in Sioux City and explains that it was the closest escape he ever had The Colonel told wan disapproval of her | when he refused to accept the soft snap being now allowed to visit her invalid beid out to him by Mr. Hamilton. He

Those in Sioux City who remember Mr. boards, where bows were exchanged, that | Brown do not recall him as a section man being the extent of her intercourse with or a hostler, but as a messenger boy and

noised abroad, and before the afternoon came around, the entertainment was declared off, as every other man and woman and he has never avoided it.

MME. SEMBRICH CHATS OF OUR OPERA AND SINGERS

Better Performances at the Metropolitan Than at Opera Houses in Germany---The Great Defect of American Singers---Few Roles Nowadays for the Light Soprano.

I never do it again.
"In a way there is the same difference

Stars are necessary to the best operatic performances in the opinion of Mme. Sembrich, who happens to be a star herself and therefore may be prejudiced in favor of the system. But they are necessary, the thinks, not so much on account of the omfort they get out of drawing large alaries as for the good of the public.

"It amuses me to hear German opera"

"Unage, as the company were all to sing in German for years.

"Whenever I was on the stage alone it was as much as I could do to keep from going back to Italian, and several times I did, although I had not sungia anything which they consider beneath their artistic dignity. So poor little Marie was not much appreciated in St. Petersburg.

"The difference in languages shows itself most in the differences in the vowel sounds on which the notes fall. If one is accustomed to singing on a sound like 'a' in one language, it is very difficult to change it to 'u', especially when one has brich, who happens to be a star herself and therefore may be prejudiced in favor of the system. But they are necessary, she thinks, not so much on account of the comfort they get out of drawing large salaries as for the good of the public.

"It amuses me to hear German opera houses referred to as if they were the only places that supplied good music," Mme. Sembrich said to a Sun reporter. "As a matter of fact the singers at the Metropolitan are not equalled the world over.

"Of course they are stars for the most part. New Yorkers should be delighted that they are, even if it is possible for stars to sing only twice a week. That is the greatest difficulty for the manager who, like Mr. Conried, is ambitious to fill his company with the best artists in the world. Stars cannot sing, as the Germans do, two or three performances in succession.

"In German opera houses the women are engaged for five or ten years, and their public knows them. They may be good one night and not so good the next and it makes no difference. The people are devoted to their own singers, and they forgive them when they are not so good as they might be.

"But the situation is entirely different in New York. The women singers come here for a few months. They must keep themselves in the best possible condition, for the people who pay high prices come to the opera house expecting to hear the singers do their very best. For that reason it is necessary for us to keep in perfect vocal condition. That can only be done by singing not more than twice a week, and then with a certain period of rest between the performances

"Besides, it rarely happens in Germany that a singer has to sing three severe rôles in succession, whatever may be said to the contrary. If she sings, say Brunnhilde on one evening, she will probably have Aennchen in 'Freischütz' or some

such rôle the next. "The New York public hears the best opera in the world, and any attempt to make it more like opera in Germany would only damage it. There is much to be admired in German choruses, stage management and the artistic thoroughness of German operatic performances, and the orchestras are good. But the Metropolitan

Mme. Sembrich, who probably more than any other singer is asked for advice as to music study, told THE SUN reporter that she had long ceased to recommend teachers, as so much depended on the pupil that it was impossible to tell what any teacher might do with a voice.

"I had the advantage of studying with both the Lampertis," Mme. Sembrich said, "and had instruction from the son before I took lessons from the father, who was very, very old when I met him. I had sung in this country before I ever saw the senior Lamperti.

"I was singing in Paris and he came to place King Edward's pronounced penchant call on me. There was no talk then of my studying with him, and the only reference to the matter came when he said be "It happened that I was not well that

next summer and took a long vacation. He explained by the way that it was one | We had a cottage on Lake Como and we cause of colonial bitterness that Austra- discovered to our surprise that the home "I studied with him all that summer

proach as regards accent, dress, manners, now in Berlin, where he has just gone to to., whereas the loudest voiced and most live after having been for years in Dresden." pizarre New Yorker or Chicagoau was It will interest American singers to hear what Mme. Sembrich said when she was "And, then," with an apprehensive air, asked what their greatest fault seemed

"It is lack of the power to enunciate exist in your countrymen. There are undistinctly," she answered immediately, "and doubtedly tall Americans and short Americans and short Americans who are rich and Americans who are rich and Americans they have studied for a long time. I don't learned it in, provided that the language difficult aria. There is no time to warm up the voice, and the music has no emotion itself is so well suited to singing.

"The Mozart roles that I sang first in in it to carry the singer along. Even cans. Americans who are rich and Americans | they have studied for a long time. I don't know why it is, but that feature of singing

"Enunciation is not a part of good singing social rank, alas, dear lady, you are all of that is to be acquired after everything you simply Americans. Between what else has been learned. It is a part of elementary singing itself and must be learned tinction is too subtle to be grasped by when the student begins. Good enunciathe British understanding. I myself fear tion depends primarily on the placing of the voice. When that is bad, good enunciation is out of the question.

"I can understand English perfectly well-of course not so readily as an American, but I have no difficulty in realizing all that is said. Yet I can rarely understand a word of English sung by an American. Not a word comes out distinctly

enough for me to get the sense. "Why this should be true of American singers I do not know. But I have no-

ticed it in so many of them that it seems to me a national fault."

Mme. Sembrich thinks that language has an important influence on the way in which a person sings. which a person sings.

"The Italian operas are impossible for in the German language," she said. and I never attempted to sing them that tongue but once.
"When I went to Vienna, Director Jahn, and public who was then in charge of the opera house, said that, so long as I could speak German and had once sung 'Lucia' in German, I ought to sing the opera for him in that landough to sing the opera for him in that landough to sing the opera for him in that landough to sing the opera for him in that landough to sing the opera for him in that landough to sing the opera for him in that landough the opera for him in the opera for him in that landough the opera for him in the opera fo

East Side German Graybeards at Their Ease in a Cellar

You might idle about the streets of the terman quarter for years without suspecting the existence of the little rathseller. Somehow you rarely see any one oing down its steep steps, yet the place apoing down its steep steps. German quarter for years without suspecting the existence of the little raths. keller. Somehow you rarely see any one going down its steep steps, yet the place appears always to be full.

The modest announcement in German inconspicuously painted at the head of the stairs: "Free hot lunch from ten to twelve." does not attract the attention of the ordinary passerby. When you descend the stairs you find the coziest little den, with ceiling just high enough to permit a tall man to keep on his hat, and a sawdust floor. The place is lighted artificially all day long. Rather less than midway the room is a

railed dais, suggesting the appointments of a rude court of justice. It now serves mainly as a retreat for family parties, from grandmother down to the babe in arms. Such parties are seen there, and the pap bottle on the table among the wine glasses has an irresistibly comic effect for one new

That notion of beginning the free lunch

wine flows. Thus little time is lost between drinks, and the barkeeper is free to quench the casual thirst of the unfortunates who have not leisure for all day sessions.

Noonday finds the hot free lunch exhausted; but there are cheese and pretzels for late comers, and, besides, a pleasing mitigation for the really hungry. Just across the way from the rathskeller is a German butcher, and from him, at any hour of the day, you may buy a half round of

The Mozart foles that I sain and I sain and I sain were the Queen in 'Die Zauberflote' and in the 'Entführung aus dem Seraglio.' The parts of Susanna and Zerlina I sang first in Italian, at Covent Garden. I once sang Marguerite in German, because the direction in Berlin had the idea that it would be delightful to have the covers given entirely in German as the

sented and regretted it before I had gone half the way through the opera.

"I have thus sung Gounod's opera in three languages. 'Romeo et Juliette' I have also sung in French and Italian. The Queen in 'Les Huguenots' I have sung in Italian, French and German. The part of Rosina, which I have sung more than anything rice. I have sung only in Italian In

thing else. I have sung only in Italian. In all of the Mozart operas which I have sung with the exception of 'Die Entführung. I have sung both in Italian and German.

"The most curious experience I ever had with an opera, from a linguistic point of view, was in the case of 'La Fille du Regi-

Carlo and sang it there in French.

"I sang it again in Berlin in German and then I went to St. Petersburg, where I sang the opera for the first time in Italian. It did not make much difference, however, what tongue I sang in there. The press and public declared that Marie was because the state of the same three thre

The hale old men who holinob by the hour over their wine and cards in the German resorts are nobody's dependents, and the leisure of some seems unlimited. It was of these that the inspired inventor of the morning free hot lunch thought when he had that legend painted over the stairs of the little rathskeller. What a pity that any old gentleman of leisure should have to sit alone at home a whole morning when he might come to the rathskeller an hour or so after hreakfast to read the newspapers and talk breakfast to read the newspapers and talk

with his cronies. So the 10 to 12 luncheon was set up and the quarter responded gratefully. No man after that needed to waste his mornings fortable seat and a congenial tablemate, why go home at all till the time of the evening meal? The free hot lunch is sufficient, the wine is potable, the company is cheerful, the stairs are steep, and ten to one the the wine is potable, the company is cheerful, the stairs are steep, and ten to one the weather will be better rather than worse

toward evening.

To make the situation more snug and hour at 10 o'clock in the morning was a genuine inspiration of one who knew the needs of the quarter. It takes a man from other parts of town years to realize that leisure is the special characteristic of the leisure is the special characteristic of the East Side, and above all of that part included in the German quarter.

There is an improbable theory, doubtless of purely Occidental origin, that certain of the and suspended immediately over the table where three or four old gentlement of leisure are settling the affairs of two continents in choice gutturals.

When any one of the party finds his glass.

sounds on which the notes fall. If one is accustomed to singing on a sound like 'a' in one language, it is very difficult to change it to 'u', especially when one has got into the habit of singing one sound and has learned how to make the voice sound most beautiful on that vowel."

Mine. Sembrich seems less inclined to have favorite rôles than to have some that she especially abominates.

In a way there is the same difference between singing in French and in Italian. The rôle of the Queen in 'Les Huguenots' is the most tiresome and uninteresting in all the répertoire of a light soprano, and it is much more difficult to sing in French all the repertoire of a light soprano, and it is much more difficult to sing in French than in Italian.

"I wish Mr. Conried would let me sing Marguerile once in Italian. I sang it here in French, but in Italian it is quite a different thing. In Italian I learned the part, and I sometimes think that a singer is always heard to the best advantage when she sings an opera in the language she

have favorite roles than to have some that she especially abominates.

"The most uninteresting role in the whole repertoire is the one that I am singing so much just now." she said. "That is Marguerile de Valois in 'Les Huguenots.' It is uttrify any my partie to the singer, because she is not a living figure, but a puppet.

"So soon as the curtain rises she steps to the footlights and has to sing an extremely

Behind the Veil in Russia Winter Life on a Country Estate-A Phase of Russian Character Little Known to Foreigners.

In no country in Europe are the conditions of existence more strikingly national than in Russia. The idea carried away by the average visitor that Russian life is much like that in other European countries is based on a misconception, a failure to grasp salient features of the Russian national character.

A visit to the country home of a Russian landowner reveals the immense contrast presented by the life of the Russian noble in town and his more nearly normal existence on his country estate. Nothing shows more clearly the versatility of the Slavonic nature than this ready adaptability to either mode of life. The man seems transformed. Once back in the country the mask of the cosmopolitan dweller in one of the gayest capitals in the world, St. Petersburg, falls away like a wornout garment and he is again a Boyar, like his forefathers.

A group of peasants, large or small according to the size of his estate, will be waiting to greet him on his arrival there. Their warm welcome to the khazyaeen (master of the house) is evidently sincere, and as they bend reverently to kiss his hands, the contract the color of the country stout soldiers in the din formation of the color of the country stout soldiers in the din farmed to the color of the color of the country therefore, travellers breat their journey at the country house of the friends. Nor do these self-invited guests ever fail to receive the warmest of welcomes, for the Russian country dwelling no mention has been made of the vast underground construction which takes the place of our cellar. This is the storehouse equal to the house in area, and is divided by means of corridors, radiating from a large open space in the centre, the doors of these storerooms all securely fastened with huge home made locks.

The central space is occupied by a bed of carefully dried sand, in which are planted roots to be used during the long months of winter parsnips, carrots, turnips and the feature of the close of the

and as they bend reverently to kiss his hands, or possibly his feet in the case of the older ones, just as they would have done in the days of serfdom, you begin to see that the real relations between landowner and peasant are much more friendly than is generally supposed.

Wood is the material employed in the construction of all buildings in the rural districts, with the possible exception of the churches. In the climate of Russia, where the average life of these wooden buildings will not exceed seventy years, there are no castles like those of the old feudal nobles of England or of the Conti-

nent to connect past and present. It is not possible to estimate the loss to Russia caused by the absence of such local centres of cultivation and refinement as would be supplied by castles of stone. Such castles would, no doubt, have checked the drain of national wealth to the capital or to foreign countries. To collect works of art or any articles of intrinsic value and place them in a dwelling which might at any time become a prey to fire, that great Russian terror both in town and country, and which would, in any case, scarcely last more than one lifetime, would surely be the height of folly. Other even stronger reasons to prevent the forming of such collections will be found in the difficulties of transportation and the fact that where the treasure is there will the heart be also.

The heart of the average Russian landowner is not, and never has been, in his country estate. Thus his personal influence in his own locality, which would, no doubt, have led to the development of a healthier national life than is possible under present

conditions, is almost entirely lacking. The timber built dwellings of even the richest landowners in Russia lack the picturesque construction familiar to travellers in Norway and Sweden. The walls are generally formed of square beams, from

When these walls are covered with paint on the outside and plaster within, they are as impenetrable to the winter blasts as the hull of a ship, and far warmer than the climates can form no idea of the beauty of this season in Russia. The snow, thickly same thickness of stone or brick would be.

The old houses have thatched roofs, like The old houses have thatched roofs, like those of the peasant's typa (cottage), but more modern dwellings are shingled. The For weeks the sky will be cloudless and the rooms are almost always lofty and some of them, notably the drawing room and the

dining room, are o' large dimensions. dining room, are o large dimensions.

The plaster walls are tinted with a wash of some light shade for the drawing and sunset are indescribable. bed rooms, and a darker one, possibly brown, for the dining room. The furnicolorature soprano. She has not only to sing the most difficult music ever written, but she has got to go directly against public ture is simple, very likely home made, or, as is frequently the case of late years. one of the cheaper varieties of American

and English manufacture. that give her a chance to display her art. But they have not been popular on their own account for years. Public taste has drifted away from them to the more dramatic works. Their revival, as it is always butterfly in St. Petersburg or Moscow would be amazed could they behold the bareen (lord) on his country estate, labor-

artists who sing them.

"I am very glad that I am not at the beginning of my career. It is a task for any singer to make her way in such operas now. When Patti sang first 'Lucia' and 'Traviata,' the operas were in their bloom, and even the Rossini operas were fresh in the favor of the public. The fate of the light soprano to-day is very different. She has to give these old works all the life they possess, and the other singers have to do.

The average Russian of educations are the singer of the public of the life they possess, and the other singers have to do. What does he do? Let us see. try to get an inside glimpse of Russian life during the winter months, notwithstanding the fact that it would be the last thing a Russian would expect us to be interested in.

The average Russian of education and culture, especially those who have travelled in other countries, while they fully appreciate and feel just pride in the strides made by their country during the last decade. still feel ashamed of the great Russia still "behind the veil." to use the English equivasomething sordid and vulgar, something to roided in conversation as far as possible, he would be unwilling to confess to the foreign friends who know him only in the gay round of life at St. Petersburg that he was even remotely interested in things, to him, so common as the planting of crops

There seems to be a popular idea among Americans to the effect that the majority of the rural dwellers in Russia pass the winter months in a state of hibernation, not unlike that of the bear. While it is true that Russians as a nation have little taste for the out-of-door sports that give such charm to a Canadian winter, for instance, there are, none the less many and varied contribute. none the less, many and varied occupations

none the less, many and varied occupations, alike for noble and peasant.

It is true that should his means permit, our Russian friend has glidly shaken the dust, or to be more accurate, the snow, of his country home from his feet and hied him to the capital. But suppose he is one of the numerous class of odnodvortsy thanked, accurators, and is obliged. (small landed proprietors) and is obliged to be his own overseer. How will he pass the long winter months?

Be assured not in idleness. The unsold pigs and cattle that cannot be kept during the winter must be killed and salted for future use. It is quite possible that on this estate the system of profit sharing may obtain.

Artels (associations of working me peasants may have made contracts with khazyaeen to cultivate certain portions produce. During the winter it is very probable that the same artels will engage in ther work of a purely industrial character— urniture making, various sorts of metal work He does not insult you with a proposal to pay for your wine: but, as likely as not, he fumbles in his pockets, fetches out a neat little brown box, and begs you to take a pinch of snuff, with the assurance that it is better than that provided free for the general public in a big round box at the end of the bar. The courtesy of the place is an exchange of snuff, and the American custom of treating is almost unknown.

If or the more sames industries the khazyaeen is very likely to have an interest, and their supervision will be added to his labors. These trade associations are known as kustar peasants.

Hotels, as we understand the term, are practically unknown in Russia outside the cities, the only substitute being the traktir (inn), where the disstance of the place is side the cities, the only substitute being the traktir (inn), where the disstance of the place is side the cities, the only substitute being the traktir (inn), where the disstance of the place is side the cities, the only substitute being the traktir (inn), where the disstance of the place is side the cities, the only substitute being the traktir (inn), where the disstance of the place is an exchange of snuff, and the American is the khazyaeen is very likely to have an interest, and their supervision will be added to his labors. These trade associations are known as kustar peasants.

Hotels, as we understand the term, are practically unknown in Russia outside the cities, the only substitute being the traktir (inn), where the dis-

roots; these form an important part of the Should the storerooms be opened to our

winter diet.

Should the storerooms be opened to our inspection, we would see innumerable sides of bacon, smoked mutton hams, smoked geese, and still other casks containing butter, linseed and other vegetable oils cheeses (an important item of farm produce), and other regiments formed by sacks of flour.

Impossible, you say? Not at all, for you must remember that on this estate from forty to fifty mouths must be fed every day, besides the guests, of whom mention has just been made, and who form no inconsiderable item in the consumption of the winter's stores.

We may be sure that the khazyeeana (mistress of the house) is not behind her husband in activity in the tasks that pertain to their common welfare. She will oversee the smoking of the hams, bacon, fish, &c., for each good housewife has her special method and vies with her neighbor in the perfection of their preparation.

The solid soup, which plays an important part in the summer cuisine of the Russian is also prepared at this season. Should spinning and weaving be carried on, as is more than likely to be the case, the more delicate fabrics will come under the eya if not the hand of the khazyeeana. Russian hand woven linen of the finest quality is a work of art, quite beyond price, and the khazyeeana feels personal pride in its excellence.

The delights of a sledge ride in Russian

cellence.

The delights of a sledge ride in Russia can be fully understood only by those who have enjoyed that pleasure. The horses are doubtless, harnessed in the well known troika fashion, three abreast. Where the roads are very narrow, three, sometimes four, horses are harnessed tandem, a mode requiring considerable skill on the part

f the driver.
But a spill from one of these low sledges. even with the horses going at full speed rarely entails serious consequences and is generally treated as a good joke; indeed it strongly rested as a good loke; indeed, it strongly resembles being flung into a feather bed. Should the foreigner be enjoying his first sledge ride it is more than likely the driver will slyly assist the seeming accident when a drift of suitable size is reached. But the snow, dry as salt, brushes off easily and the drive is resumed, gayly as ever.

one foot to eighteen inches in thickness, laid one on the other and neatly joined at the corners. They are fastened together by wooden bolts, sometimes three feet in length, driven at short intervals.

The interstices are made airtight with dried moss, saturated with pitch, then dried in the sun, and the whole is covered with a sheathing of thin planks, on the inside as well as the outside of the walls. When these walls are covered with paint

ter that the foreigner is probably fortunate in not comprehending.

Those who know winter only in temperate

this season in Russia. The snow, thick clustered on the branches of trees, assum sun, glittering on the dazzling snow cover-ing the earth like a garment, makes a scene of almost unearthly beauty. This will

At this season you will see long lines of peasants traversing the country roads in their little sledges, which are identical in construction with those of a hundred years ago. These bear men, women, boys girls, all flocking to the urban centres these a vast number probably are kustar peasants before mentioned. Suc cooperative organizations are formed by the moujiks (peasants) working at various trades in any village, however insignifi-

The intelligence of the moujik is collective rather than individual, and their spirit of obedience, a remnant of serfdom, seems to render them incapable of working unlessender direction. Should three moujiks he sent to chop trees, their first act, before setting to work, would be to select one as leader, and though he will probably take little part in the work himself, the others will labor under his direction in perfect

With the knowledge of this national characteristic in mind it is not difficult to under stand how natural it is for the moujiks t form themselves into artels for the carryin on of their various trades. The formati an artel is very simple. A starost ader) is first elected, and as every enter prise, however small, requires some capital, each member contributes all he can

Possibly from \$20 to \$25 is raised in this way. This suffices for a start. But, money is not forthcoming from the me bers, they may be able to borrow it.
again, several of their number may
sent to work in the nearest town dur the winter to raise the necessary capital As soon as this is secured, a svielelia (cooperative work shop) is constructed. This will merely be a roughly built izha probably situated at the end of the village. There the trade, learned in the days of serfdom makes a fresh start.

Unfortunately for the moujik, he possessed far more industrial than commercial city and as a natural result is bad fleeced by the middlemen in the disposof the results of his labor, for they purchas these products of the artels for less that half of the price they eventually obtained.

for them.

This whole subject of industrial couper tion is one of vast importance to Russias all students of her social and politic seconomy cannot fail to realize. The who have the best welfare of the russian state. at heart must agree with a recent won this subject, Prof. D. I. Mendellef.

"There is every reason to hope that will soon come to be realized as prand expedient to still carry on a large of these industries on a small scale, lea only a portion of them to be handled large enterprises, which will event pass into the hands of the Govern as in the case of the railways

Fox Hunt Through Streets.



(Copyright by A. Dupont, 1904.)

second aria is at least intensely dramatic. Those two are, however, the least interesting reles that fall to the lot of the colorature

"She has a hard time nowadays, the

The old Italian operas are the only ones

called now, depends altogether on the artists who sing them.

ess, and the other singers have to do

"The composers have evidently no in-

terest in the light soprano as a heroine.

Puccini made it possible for her to sing

Mimi in 'La Bohème,' but he has not written
another opera for her, but went off into

of the day, you may buy a half pound of frankfurters for 8 or 10 cents. It is well to slip some such thing in your

pocket as you approach the rathskeller, if the hour is past 12. The obliging barkeeper will lose no time in boiling your frankfurters, with no charge for corkage. There is rye bread, free, to go with the sausages, wine at 5 cents a half schoppen to wash all down, and a welcome that puts

Share your frankfurters with the stranger

who mayhap occupies the other side of your table, and you are at once free of the

place. He opens out most agreeably in German if you understand that; if you do

something that remotely re-

MME, MARCELLA SEMBRICH.